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Boicourt et al.(54) **FINANCIAL PROCESSING SYSTEM AND METHOD****Publication Classification**(51) Int. Cl.⁷ G06F 17/60

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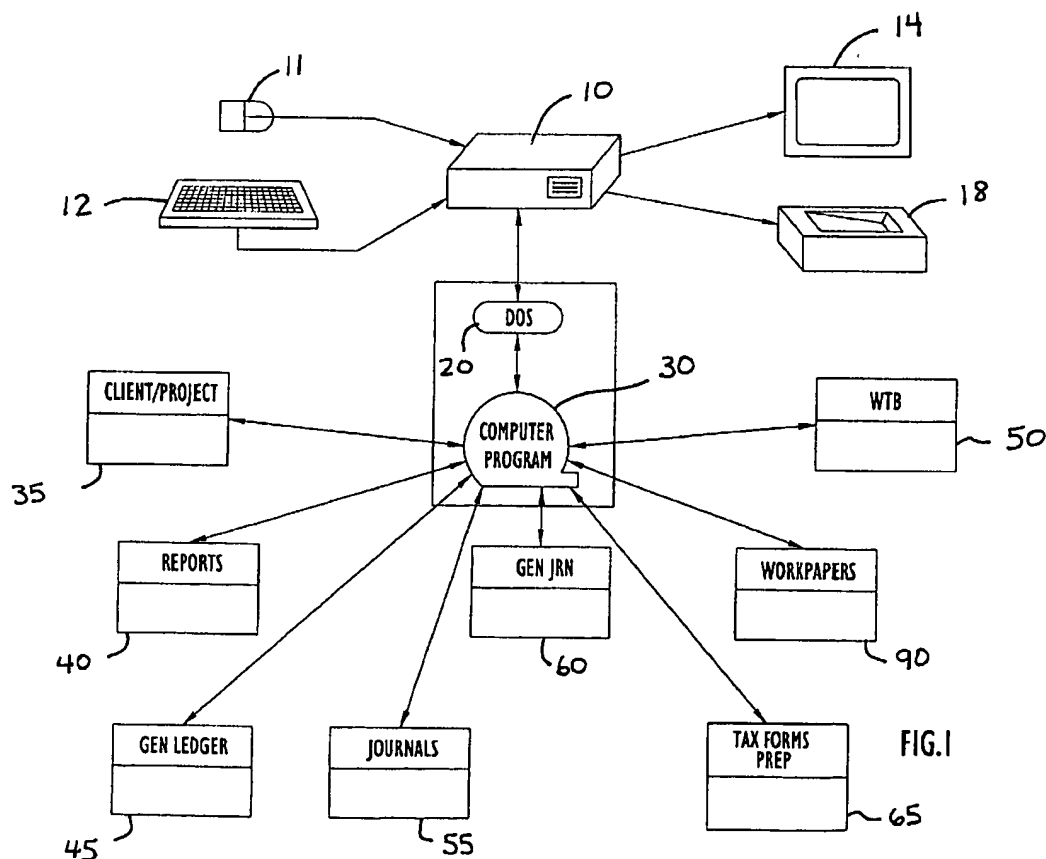
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Rockville, MD 20850-3164 (US)**(21) Appl. No.: **09/788,167**(22) Filed: **Feb. 16, 2001****Related U.S. Application Data**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A financial processing system according to the present invention includes a computer system and an integrated set of software functions and procedures that construct a multidimensional array to be used to enter and/or modify various types of data, provide the data to an output device and store the data permanently on a hard disk, tape or other similar storage device. The computer system is utilized in connection with the design, installation, creation, updating and reporting of financial information in diverse applications including trial balance, general ledger, financial analysis, financial reports, tax returns and workpapers (e.g., spreadsheets). The diverse applications may be accessed by a user via menus and appropriate keyboard and/or mouse entries. In addition, the workpapers and reports may be selectively configured by a user to accommodate various formats of and/or display user selected information.



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Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (49):

[0089] The General Journal (FIG. 22a) is a representation of the browse port configured to display the adjustments entered into the system. Each **adjustment** is represented by an **adjusting journal entry** (AJE) reference number followed by a line for each transaction in the entry. Each transaction is generally displayed in three columns with the browse port preferably containing four columns. The four columns contain from left to right (e.g., as viewed in FIG. 22a), the name of the general ledger account being adjusted, the general ledger account number, and the amount of the adjustment. Debit amounts are displayed in the third column, while credit amounts are displayed in the fourth column. The explanation of the adjustment is displayed in the lines immediately following the transaction lines. If the number of lines in the browse port are not sufficient to completely display all the entries, a scroll bar is provided to facilitate the display of all the entries.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (87):

[0120] New **adjusting journal entries** may be added to the general journal by placing the mouse cursor in the fourth or fifth columns and pressing `INS`, the insert key. This causes the computer program to display the `General Journal` screen as described below with a new AJE number and the cursor positioned for the next entry.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (90):

[0122] New accounts may be added to the WTB by positioning the mouse cursor in one of the first three columns and pressing `INS`, the insert key. This causes the computer program to display the add account screen (FIG. 21b) which prompts the user to enter the name and account number for the new account.

Navigation and manipulation of the WTB is provided via the mouse and the scroll bar. A scroll bar is provided to the right of the eighth column (e.g., as viewed in FIG. 21a) to access accounts that do not fit onto the screen.

Adjusting journal entries maybe added by placing the mouse cursor in the fourth, fifth, sixth, or seventh columns of the WTB and pressing `INS`, the insert key. This causes the computer program to display the `General Journal` described below with a new AJE number and the cursor positioned for the next entry. A particular **adjusting journal entry** (AJE) may be displayed by positioning the mouse cursor on the reference number of the **adjustment** or on its amount and pressing the left mouse button. The computer program then displays the referenced adjusting entry in its own browse port.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (96):

[0126] The General Journal browse port is initiated by selecting the GEN JRNL option from the main menu (FIG. 18b). To create a new journal entry, the system user presses the `INS` key while the mouse cursor is in the General Journal browse port. Computer program 30 creates the next sequential record in the general journal file (FIG. 5), assigns the sequence number to the jnum field and assigns the effective financial date to the date field. The computer program then displays the general journal browse port (FIG. 22a) with the cursor in the account number position prompting the user to enter a general ledger account number. The system user then enters a number using keyboard 12

attached to computer 10. The computer program searches the general ledger file

to ascertain that this is a valid general ledger account number. If the number is valid, the computer program creates a new transaction record in the temporary transaction file (FIG. 7), assigns the sequence number to the refnum field, assigns the effective date to the date field, assigns the general ledger account number to the acctnum field, assigns the general ledger account name to

the descr field and assigns the value of `8` to the source field. The computer program positions the cursor in the amount column. The system user is prompted

to enter an amount. The transaction records can reflect either debit or credit entries. Debit entries are represented as positive numbers and are displayed in the third column (FIG. 22a), while credit entries are represented as negative numbers and are displayed in the fourth column. The system user enters an amount preceded by a minus sign if a credit is to be entered otherwise the entry is recorded as a debit. Computer program 30 immediately "posts" the transaction to the WTB, adjusts the ending balance column and the amount is added to the current field of the general ledger account indicated in the acctnum field. After all transactions of an **adjusting journal entry** have

been created, the system user presses the `ESC` key at which time the computer program displays a template for typing the explanation for the adjusting entry. The system user types the explanation in the template and presses the `ESC` key to indicate the completion of the explanation. The computer program responds by recording the explanation in the comment field of the general journal record, creating a new record to the general journal file and adding a blank row to the end of the general journal browse port.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (97):

[0127] In the conduct of audits, compilations and similar engagements, accountants or other finance professionals prepare entries to adjust the balances obtained from their client general ledgers. These adjusting entries take substantially the same form as the general journal entries described above. An accountant or other user, working from the WTB (FIG. 21a) presses the `INS` key while the mouse cursor is in the fourth, fifth, sixth or seventh columns. Computer program 30 creates the next sequential record as described above. Instead of posting the entry to the General Ledger, the program posts the entry to the WTB.